



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

6
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/748,715	12/30/2003	Thomas Odorzynski	1443.087US1	2119
21186	7590	12/26/2007	EXAMINER	
SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG & WOESSNER, P.A. P.O. BOX 2938 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402			MYHRE, JAMES W	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3622	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			12/26/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/748,715	ODORZYNSKI, THOMAS
	Examiner	Art Unit
	James W. Myhre	3622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 October 2007.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1,3-8,10-18,20 and 22-29 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1,3-8,10-18,20 and 22-29 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 30 December 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/1/05.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ .
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) Other: ____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the preliminary amendment filed on October 29, 2007. The preliminary amendment cancelled Claims 2, 9, 19, 21, and 30. Thus, the currently pending claims considered below are Claims 1, 3-8, 10-18, 20, and 22-29.

Double Patenting

2. Applicant is advised that should claims 3, 8, and 10-13 be found allowable, claims 20, 22, 24, and 27-29 will be objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being substantial duplicates thereof, respectively. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

Claim 3 depends from Claim 1 and thus includes three limitations: selling space on diapers to a sponsor; placing an ad onto the diapers; and selling the diapers to customers. Claim 20 depends from Claim 14 and thus contains three limitations: placing a promotion onto diapers; selling the diapers to customers; and selling space on the diapers to sponsors. Thus, Claim 3 and Claim 20 are claiming the same three limitations (the Examiner considers an ad and a promotion to be equivalent). The other claims above are dependent claims which each recite the same limitations of their corresponding claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1, 3, 6, 8, 12, 14-17, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gabler (5,481,758).

Claims 1, 3, 8, 14, 20, 22, and 23: Gabler discloses a system and method for advertising, comprising:

- a. selling space on diapers (underwear) to a sponsor (column 1, lines 25-29);
- b. placing an ad onto each diaper (column 2, lines 55-60); and
- c. selling the diapers to customers (column 1, lines 30-35).

Claims 6, 12, and 28: Gabler discloses a system and method as in Claims 1, 8, and 22 above, and further discloses printing the ad onto the diapers (column 4, lines 65-67).

Claim 15: Gabler discloses a method as in Claim 14 above, and further discloses manufacturing the diapers (by citing that the advertisers pay manufacturers of articles of clothing) (column 1, lines 25-29). (Also, inherent, since there must be a manufactured diaper before the advertisement can be placed thereon.)

Claims 16, 17, 25 and 26: Gabler discloses a system and method as in Claims 14 and 22 above, and further discloses that the ad may pertain to the article of clothing (diaper) (by placing an advertisement for jeans on a pair of jeans) or not. Gabler discloses that "the content of the messages which is applied is limited only the imagination of persons making the message garment" (column 3, line 2-9). The Examiner also notes that little, if any, patentable weight is given to the product or type of product being advertised by the ad. It is inherent, as disclosed by Gabler that any message may be placed on the article of clothing (diaper).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 4, 5, 7, 10, 11, 13, 18, 24, 27, and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gabler (5,481,758) in view of Iwamoto (WO 03/023496).

Claims 4, 5, 10, 11, 24, and 27: Gabler discloses a system and method as in Claims 1, 8, and 22 above, but does not explicitly disclose placing a plurality of ads on the diaper. However, Iwamoto discloses a similar system and method for advertising on clothing that places a plurality of advertisements on the front, back, sides, etc. of the clothing (Abstract and Figures 1 and 17). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having

ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for Gabler to place one or more additional advertisements on the front, back, sides, or other desired place on the diaper. One would have been motivated to place more than one ad on the diaper in order to increase revenue for the manufacturer since each advertiser would be paying for the ad placement.

Claims 7, 13, and 29: Gabler discloses a system and method as in Claims 1, 8, and 22 above, but does not explicitly disclose attaching a detachable ad to the diapers. However, Iwamoto discloses a similar system and method for advertising that discloses the ad may be printed onto the clothing or attached in a plurality of detachable manners (Abstract and Figures 2-16). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made for Gabler to detachably attach the ad to the diaper. One would have been motivated to use a detachable ad in order to allow the user to retain the ad after the diapers were used.

Claim 18: Gabler discloses a method as in Claim 14 above, but does not explicitly disclose that the commercial advertisement on the diaper is a coupon. However, a coupon is one well known type of commercial advertisement that have been detachably attached to products for many years. Thus, taken with the disclosure in Iwamoto of using detachable advertisements as discussed above, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a coupon as the advertisement or as part of the advertisement. One would have been

motivated to include a (detachable) coupon in order to entice the customer to purchase the advertised product (whether it was for more diapers or some other product).

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- a. Ashy (7,243,377) discloses a hat with a plurality of detachable advertisements affixed thereto.
- b. Ota et al (JP 10317219) discloses clothing with a plurality of advertisements attached thereto.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James W. Myhre whose telephone number is (571) 272-6722. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday 6:00-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eric Stamber can be reached on (571) 272-6724. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



JWM
December 20, 2007



James W. Myhre
Primary Patent Examiner